



INTER-LAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

PO Box 268 • 111 N Van Eps Ave • Madison, SD 57042 • 605-256-6518 • Fax 605-256-2238 • www.interlakescap.com

ICAP Offices

601 4th St Ste 108
Brookings, SD 57006
692-6391

116 N Commercial
PO Box 119
Clark, SD 57225
532-3722

7 - 8th Ave SE
Watertown, SD 57201
886-7674

Courthouse
PO Box 616
Clear Lake, SD 57226
874-2062

Courthouse
210 E 5th Ave
Milbank, SD 57252
432-6571

Courthouse
PO Box 237
Hayti, SD 57241
783-3867

Courthouse
PO Box 254
DeSmet, SD 57231
854-3701

111 N Van Eps Ave
PO Box 268
Madison, SD 57042
256-6518

104 N Main Suite 140
Canton, SD 57013
940-1909

Courthouse
PO Box 190
Salem, SD 57058
425-2271

108 E Hwy 34
PO Box 2
Howard, SD 57349
772-5712

505 N Western Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
334-2808

112 E Pipestone
Flandreau, SD 57028
997-2824

Courthouse
PO Box 370
Parker, SD 57053
940-1909

MEMO

To: Our Associates and Friends

From: Inter-Lakes Community Action Board of Directors

Date: February 2020

It is our pleasure to present Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership's 2019 Annual Report. The report includes brief descriptions of all programs along with a listing of the Board of Directors, a summary of fiscal information, and an area map.

The Report provides detail as to the programs and services available in the 14-county area of Brookings, Clark, Codington, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, McCook, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody and Turner counties in eastern South Dakota. ***Please feel free to share it with others in your office, or with someone you think may benefit from some of these services.*** Feel free to call or email (nkasuske@interlakescap.com) the Madison office if we can provide you more copies of the report or make any necessary changes to addresses or names.



ICAP is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership



2019 Annual Report
Helping People. Changing Lives.

A Message from the Board Chairman & Executive Director

The 2019 Annual Report illustrates how Community Action works in response to locally identified needs. For over 53 years, Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership, Inc. (ICAP) has been committed to assessing our communities and meeting the necessities of low-income families, youth and seniors.

ICAP recently completed a 3-year Strategic Plan. During this process, affordable housing, mental health services, affordable healthcare including medicine, affordable childcare and jobs with good pay and benefits were identified as the top needs in our communities. Keeping all of these specific needs in mind, a comprehensive plan was developed by the Board of Directors and staff driven by our core values, in guiding ICAP to measureable results in the lives of families. It also delivers a road map to systematically evaluate agency programs and processes to ensure high quality services and positive outcomes are obtained.

Housing insecurity continues to be a significant need in our service area. The evident relationship between substance abuse and homelessness has been recognized and ICAP has partnered with the Drug Court System, Brothers and Sisters Behind Bars, Watertown Community Foundation, Department of Social Services Division of Behavioral Health and Codington County Court Services to provide Transitional Housing in the community of Watertown. Participants identified as having a Substance Use Disorder and in need of a stabilized housing environment are provided case management services, rental assistance and security deposit assistance. A Housing Stabilization Coach assists participants in developing a Housing Stabilization Plan with the goal of obtaining and maintaining permanent housing, increasing their overall income and accessing the necessary supportive services within the community.

The anticipation for 2020 is we will see many changes, continued development of programs/policies, and challenges for ICAP. We are looking forward to the year ahead and reporting on the positive impacts that will occur.

Sincerely,

Annette Mitchell
Board Chairman

Cindy Dannenbring
Executive Director

Mission Statement

Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership
empowers people to live, not just survive.

Office & Program Locations

Main Office Location

Lake County

111 N Van Eps
Madison, SD 57042
605-256-6518

Office Sites

Brookings County

601 4th St Suite 105
Brookings, SD 57006
605-692-6391

Clark County

116 N Commerical - PO Box 119
Clark, SD 57225
605-532-5156

Codington County

7 - 8th Avenue SE
Watertown, SD 57201
605-886-7674

Deuel County

County Courthouse - PO Box 616
Clear Lake, SD 57226
605-874-2062

Grant County

210 E 5th Avenue
Milbank, SD 57252
605-432-6571

Hamlin County

County Courthouse - PO Box 237
Hayti, SD 57241
605-783-3867

Kingsbury County

Courthouse
202 2nd St. SE
DeSmet, SD 57231
605-854-3701

Lincoln County

104 N Main Suite 140
Canton, SD 57013
605-940-1909

McCook County

Courthouse - 130 W Essex
PO Box 190
Salem, SD 57058
605-425-2271

Miner County

108 E Hwy 34 - PO Box 2
Howard, SD 57349
605-772-5712

Minnehaha County

505 N Western Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-334-2808

Moody County

112 E Pipestone
Flandreau, SD 57028
605-997-2824

Turner County

Courthouse - PO Box 370
Parker, SD 57053
605-940-1909

Early Head Start HomeBase

ICAP

601 4th St Suite 104
Brookings, SD 57006
605-692-6391

ICAP

106 S Van Eps
Madison, SD 57042
605-556-0186

ICAP

505 N Western Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-334-2808

ICAP

7 - 8th Avenue SE
Watertown, SD 57201
605-886-7674

Early Head Start Centers

ICAP Child Development Center

106 S Van Eps
Madison, SD 57042
605-556-0186

ICAP Child Development Center

505 N Western Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-334-2808

Head Start Centers

Baltic School

1 Bulldog Avenue
Baltic, SD 57003
605-529-5464

Brookings

United Methodist Church
625 5th St
Brookings, SD 57006
605-692-7472

Flandreau

500 1st Ave West
Flandreau, SD 57208



Garretson School

505 2nd St
Garretson, SD 57030
605-594-3453

Madison Head Start

106 S Van Eps Avenue
Madison, SD 57042
605-556-0186

Milbank Head Start

410 E 10th Ave
Milbank, SD 57252
605-432-6615

Watertown Head Start

710 10th St SW
Watertown, SD 57201
605-882-5965

Rapid Rehousing

Heartland House

Sioux Falls, SD
605-334-2808

Thrift Stores

Encore Family Store

209 S Egan Ave
Madison, SD 57042
605-556-3100

Nearly New Shop

108 E Hwy 34
Howard, SD 57349
605-772-4280

The Closet

112 E Pipestone
Flandreau, SD 57028
605-997-2824

Used 2 B New

116 N Commercial St
Clark, SD 57225

60's Plus - Nutrition

Avantara Arlington
120 Care Center Road
Arlington, SD 57212 🏠
605-854-3701

Brookings Activity Center
516 4th Street
Brookings, SD 57006 ⭐ 🏠
605-692-1407

Hy-Vee
490 22nd Ave S
Brookings, SD 57006 ⭐
605-692-1407

Prairie Cafe
722 Western Ave
Brookings, SD 57006 ⭐
605-692-1407

Brookings Health System
300 22nd Ave
Brookings, SD 57006 ⭐
605-692-1407

The Ridge
919 Jay Street
Box 262
Bruce, SD 57220
605-692-1407

Wards Store
102 S Hill
PO Box 307
Bryant, SD 57221
605-854-3701

Fairchild's Creamery
108 Main Ave.
Bryant, SD 57221 ⭐
605-854-3701

Animal's Bar and Grill
PO Box 104
113 Main
Canova, SD 57321 ⭐
605-256-6518

Carpenter Café
PO Box 141
Carpenter, SD 57322
605-854-3701

Prairie Inn
131 Main St W
Box 118
Carthage, SD 57323 ⭐ 🏠
605-854-3701

Ships Inn Bar and Grill
105 Main Street
Castlewood, SD 57223
605-692-1407

Heather's Bistro
101 N Commercial St.
Clark, SD 57225 ⭐
605-854-3701

Corner Diner
100 N Commercial St.
Clark, SD 57225 ⭐
605-854-3701

Faye Wookey Assisted Living 🏠
700 N Smith St
Clark, SD 57225
605-854-3701

Pizza & Burger Shack ⭐ 🏠
406 3rd Ave S
Clear Lake, SD 57226
605-692-1407

August 17th ⭐
213 3rd Avenue S
Clear Lake, SD 57226
605-692-1407

The Norseman Café ⭐ 🏠
103 SE 3rd St
Colman, SD 57017
605-997-2824

Wards Store and Bakery 🏠
127 Calumet Ave SW
DeSmet, SD 57231
605-854-3701

Blue Jays ⭐ 🏠
407 Bill Davis St #34
Egan, SD 57024
605-997-2824

Main Street Café 🏠
112 Main St N
Estelline, SD 57234
605-692-1407

Riverview Health Care 🏠
611 E 2nd Ave
Flandreau, SD 57028
605-997-2824

The Alibi ⭐ 🏠
219 1st Ave
Gary, SD 57237
605-692-1407

Hazel Community Café ⭐
16 W William St
Hazel, SD 57242
605-854-3701

Good Samaritan Center 🏠
300 W Hazel Ave
Howard, SD 57349
605-854-3701

Labolt Mini Mall
PO Box 17
109 Main St
LaBolt, SD 57246
605-882.2166

The Bullpen ⭐
511 Main Street
Lake Norden, SD 57248
605-854-3701

J&M Café ⭐ 🏠
306 Main Street
Lake Preston, SD 57249
605-854-3701

Head Start Building 🏠
106 S Van Eps Ave
Madison, SD 57042
605-256-6645

Sunflower Café ⭐
(Madison Regional Health)
323 SW 10th St
Madison, SD 57042
605-256-6645

St. William's Care Center ⭐ 🏠
103 N Viola St
Milbank, SD 57252
605-882-2166

Alice's Restaurant
202 N Main
PO Box 96
Stockholm, SD 57264
605-882.2166

Rufer's General Store
123 S Main
PO Box 14
Strandburg, SD 57265
605-882-2166

Volga Westside Apts.
601 Samara Ave
Volga, SD 57071
605-692-1407

Watertown Senior Center ⭐ 🏠
301 E Kemp
Watertown, SD 57201
605-882-2166

Hy-Vee ⭐
1320 9th Ave SE
Watertown, SD 57201
605-882-2166

Stockholm's Cafe ⭐
825 10th St NW
Watertown, SD 57201
605-882-2166

The Rusty Nail ⭐
221 Garfield Ave
Willow Lake, SD 57278
605-854-3701

⭐ Star Card Site
🏠 Home Delivered Meals

**Please call your local ICAP
office for additional services.**

Community Services

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is a federally-funded antipoverty program. It provides the core funding for ICAP and other Community Action Agencies (CAAs). With these funds, the agency is able to identify causes and conditions of poverty, assist eligible participants in a variety of ways and help individuals and families move toward greater self-sufficiency.

Case Management, Emergency Services, Information & Referrals

It's been said before that Community Action Agencies (CAAs) offer a hand up, not a hand-out. On any given day, ICAP's Community Service Workers are meeting with local residents in our 14-county service area to do just that. By assessing needs, setting goals and identifying resources, Community Service Workers help guide participants toward greater stability in their lives.

ICAP provides assistance for emergency needs, focusing primarily on utility and housing. ICAP receives funds for emergency needs from MidAmerican Energy's ICARE program, Emergency Food & Shelter and from the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG).

Homelessness is often viewed as a problem happening only in big cities. However, we know that homelessness can occur in cities and towns of all sizes. ICAP uses funding from the SD Housing Development Authority to provide security deposit assistance to homeless families throughout the service area. Eligible applicants are offered case management to create a self-sufficiency plan with the goal of participants attaining permanent housing.

Through their knowledge of federal, state, local and private programs and services, Community Service Workers are able to link participants with appropriate resources. These include ICAP's programs, and, when appropriate, referrals to other providers, thus avoiding duplication.

In 2018-2019:

- Information and referrals were provided to **6,420** people.
- **720** homeless or near-homeless people received assistance to enter permanent housing.
- Rent or mortgage assistance helped **189** people.
- **3,970** people received food supplies.
- **876** people were assisted with utility expenses.

Volunteers

Volunteers provided **119,749** hours of assistance to ICAP's programs.

Community Services

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

ICAP partnered with Dacotah Bank - Clark & Watertown, Dakota State University, Grant County Combined Appeal, Interlakes Area United Way, Internal Revenue Service, Watertown Area United Way and Brookings Area United Way to provide assistance to low-income and elderly people in filing their income tax returns. Through this valuable service, **837** households filed returns, resulting in **\$1,413,133** in refunds in 2018. Of these refunds, **\$535,946** were earned income tax credits. As part of the program, ICAP Community Service Workers often counsel families to use these funds to pay down debt as a step toward greater self-sufficiency.

Local Projects and Services

ICAP's service area of 14 eastern South Dakota counties includes cities and towns of all sizes, large and small. With such varied population levels come varied needs. One size **does not** fit all! Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership exists to meet the needs of each county. In many smaller communities, the local ICAP office is the only readily accessible comprehensive service provider. In these areas, ICAP partners with service groups, churches and volunteer organizations to coordinate and provide needed services and supplies. Some programs are offered once per year, while others function year-round.

Holiday Activities: 681 people received gifts
School Supplies: 857 students received supplies
Gardens: 181 people participated



Deuel Elementary School's 'Sock"-tober. Students brought in 1,200 pairs of socks.

Community Services

Thrift Stores

As daily living expenses continue to increase, more shoppers are turning to alternative sources for their clothing and household shopping needs. ICAP's thrift stores accept donations of used items and offer them to the public at a low cost. Staffed largely by volunteers, the stores are able to keep expenses down while providing this service. ICAP's Community Service Workers in these areas are also able to issue vouchers to people in need.

ICAP currently operates these thrift stores:

- Encore Family Store in Madison
- The Closet in Flandreau
- The Nearly New Shop in Howard
- Used 2B New in Clark



Transportation

Public Transit

Public transit systems operated by ICAP provided **45,186** rides to **1,361** people in **2018-2019**. ICAP administers and operates Public Transit systems in Deuel, Miner and Moody counties. ICAP also manages the East Dakota Transit program in Madison and the city transit services in Brandon, Dell Rapids and Hartford.

Rides are available on a demand-response basis to all people, regardless of age or income level. Riders over age 60 are asked for a donation, while those under age 60 are charged a



fare, which varies by location. ICAP buses promote self-sufficiency and independence to many riders by offering them a reliable mode of transportation. Busy parents depend on ICAP transit to transport their children to preschools and daycares. Rides to medical appointments, worship services, stores and more are made possible with the services of ICAP's transit systems.

Housing Programs

Weatherization Assistance Program

While many programs exist to help those in need pay heating costs, ICAP's Weatherization Assistance Program takes aim directly at the source of higher heating bills. With high prices of energy, it only makes sense to make a home as energy efficient as possible. Each home to be weatherized is audited to determine the areas in need of attention. Applicants must meet eligibility criteria.



Weatherization program services may include:

- Installation of weather-stripping and caulking
- Addition of insulation
- Health and safety measures
 - Installation of exhaust fans for continuous ventilation to help with mold issues
 - Carbon Monoxide detectors
 - Smoke Alarms

In 2018-2019, 73 homes received these weatherization services.

Weatherization program services also include the repair and replacement of malfunctioning or non-working furnaces. In 2018-2019, **85 furnaces** were repaired, while **50 homes** received new furnaces.

HOME Rehab/Repair Program

The HOME Rehabilitation program focuses on the needs of people with disabilities, in addition to the low-income and elderly, to provide home repair and modification services. This program is funded by the South Dakota Housing Development Authority (SDHDA) with HOME program funds allocated to the state by HUD. These HOME funds are used throughout the service area with the exception of Sioux Falls and are made available to qualified applicants on a zero-interest, 5-year decreasing balance forgivable loan.

HOME Rehab helped 4 homeowners modify and repair their homes for health, safety and code compliance in 2018-2019.

Housing Programs

Mutual Self-Help Housing Program

The Mutual Self-Help Housing Program provides eligible participants an opportunity to build themselves new homes by contributing 65% of the labor necessary for the job in exchange for “sweat equity” in the property. An ICAP program coordinator works with applicants to determine eligibility and secure a construction loan from USDA- Rural Development. Additionally, ICAP receives funds from the Housing Assistance Council under the Self-help Housing Opportunities Program (SHOP) to use in developing building lots for participants.



Once a group of 3-8 builders have qualified for their loans, they work together under the guidance of a construction supervisor to construct all homes of the group. No participant may move into his/her home until all homes are completed and have passed final inspections. Once all construction is complete, the construction loans are converted into standard 30 or 33 year mortgages.

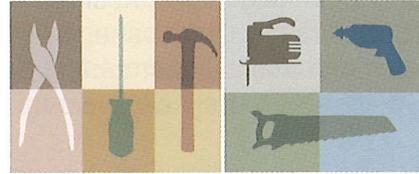
In 2018-2019, 4 families completed new, affordable high-quality homes through the Mutual Self-Help Housing Program.



Housing Programs

Self-Help Housing Rehabilitation Program

In communities and rural areas across our service area, residents have identified housing rehabilitation as a need. Homes may have fallen into disrepair and living in them may even be hazardous. In response, ICAP, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Rural Development, has created a self-help rehab program to work with low-income homeowners to improve their living conditions.



ICAP representatives meet with homeowners to design a plan of action which may include helping residents find a loan or grant funding, selecting proper supplies for the project and guiding homeowners to complete the necessary work themselves. Some aspects of the work may require licensed professionals to meet local and state codes and may be contracted out.

The Self-Help Housing Rehab program helped 8 low-income homeowners make needed repairs during the 2018-2019 program year.



Homeownership Education Program

Homeownership has long been a key factor in the self-sufficiency of American families. Unfortunately, in recent years many families have struggled with housing issues due to challenging economic conditions. ICAP's Homeownership Education Program includes three components to help these individuals.



Homebuyer Education (HBE) offers potential homeowners information and knowledge to help determine home-buying readiness. Through **Pre-Purchase Services**, ICAP's Homeownership Education Program Coordinator helps guide clients through the buying process. Once an individual or couple purchases a home, ICAP's Homeownership Education Program Coordinator may provide **Post-Purchase Services**.

In program year 2018-2019, 48 households received one or more services from the Homeownership Education Program.

Rapid Re-Housing

Heartland House

Heartland House, located in Sioux Falls, is recognized for providing high quality intensive family case management services for homeless families with children to obtain and maintain permanent housing stabilization. By working with participants, staff are able to help eligible participants move toward better lives.



Housing Stabilization Coaches work with each family to design and implement a personalized housing stabilization plan to maintain housing by furthering education, job search and placement, money management, budgeting, parenting skills, health issues and more. Families involved in the Heartland House Program must follow the terms of their housing stabilization plan and participate in case management services. Failure to comply has consequences, up to and including removal from the program. This accountability helps participants develop a sense of greater discipline and find greater success.

In 2018-2019, 125 adults and 267 children were served.

Bright Futures

Bright Futures is a comprehensive program in Sioux Falls which helps eligible homeless families with children enter permanent housing, become successful renter and move toward self-sufficiency. ICAP collaborates with the Sioux Falls Housing and Redevelopment Commission to provide Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), thus allowing each agency to utilize their strengths. The program is funded by the City of Sioux Falls through the Community Development Department.



There are several components to the program, including Security Deposit Assistance, Tenant Education/Case Management, and, if needed, a rent/damage guarantee with the participating landlord. Income-eligible participants work with ICAP Housing Stabilization Coaches with issues ranging from education and training, job search and placement to general living and parenting skills. Participants are held accountable and must follow rules to stay in the program for up to two years.

In program year 2018-2019, 90 adults and 114 children were served.

Emergency Solutions Grant

The Emergency Solutions Grant program (ESG) provides funding for two major service components: Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing. Homeless Prevention serves households that are at great risk of becoming homeless and Rapid Rehousing Services are provided for households that have already become homeless. All program recipients are required to participate in case management, to help them move toward self-sufficiency.

In 2018-2019, 70 people received ESG services.

Child Development

Head Start Pre-Birth to Five

Head Start is a federally funded program which promotes school readiness through a series of options available to pregnant women, children and their families. With early intervention, Head Start is able to help young children on a path to successful transition to kindergarten. In accordance with Federal law, each Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership Head Start site has a transition agreement with the local school district.



The Head Start Pre-Birth to Five program provides the environment and teaching to help children acquire the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning in life. With a strong focus on all aspects of healthy development, including physical, cognitive, social and emotional development, the program includes the whole family in an effort to ensure that children are ready for kindergarten.

Head Start and Early Head Start Outcomes

Head Start uses a system to monitor a child's progress toward school readiness. Objectives are utilized which measure expected knowledge, skills and abilities needed for school entry. Head Start's approach to School Readiness is three-fold:

- Children are ready for school.
- Families are ready to support their children's learning
- Schools are ready for children.



ICAP used the Teaching Strategies Gold assessment system for all children. In the fall, winter, and spring the teachers compare each child's skills and behaviors to research-based indicators of learning and development. Early Head Start staff complete a fourth assessment in the summer for the 0 to 3 year olds. These comparisons indicate for each domain, whether a child's skills and behaviors are below, at, or above expectations for their age. The graph below shows the percentage of children meeting or exceeding expectation in areas of targeted skills when they started Head Start in the fall of 2018 and where they were in the spring of 2019. Children



in all categories showed improvement across the school year and there was significant growth in children exceeding expectation overall. Numbers of children meeting and exceeding expectations showed significant growth in all domains by spring; social/emotional, physical, literacy, approaches to learning and cognitive. The significant growth in all areas proves the effectiveness of the program's positive impact on children's development and kindergarten readiness.

Agency Financial Report

Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs Year Ended September 30, 2019

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weakness identified?	No
Significant deficiency identified?	Yes
Noncompliance material to financials statements noted?	No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major federal programs:	
Material weakness identified?	No
Significant deficiency identified?	No
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major program	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance [2 CFR 200.516(a)]?	No
<u>Name of Federal Major Programs</u>	<u>CFDA No.</u>
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance	93.568
Head Start	93.600
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	\$750,000
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	Yes

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

Finding: Development Fee Adjustment (2019-001)

Condition: During our audit Wipfli LLP proposed a significant adjustment to properly reflect the development fee activity related to Horizon Place Apartments Limited Partnership, which we deem significant in relation to the financial statements. Since the internal controls of Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership, Inc. did not include the adjustment as described above prior to the audit, a significant deficiency exists in the Organization's internal controls over this transaction in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Agency Financial Report

Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs Year Ended September 30, 2019 Continued...

Criteria: 45 CFR Part 75 302, Uniform Administrative Requirements, and Audit Requirements for Financial Management and Standards for Financial Management Systems requires effective control over, and accountability for all funds, property, and other assests. The non-Federal entity must adequately safeguard all assets and assure that they are used soley for the authorized purposes.

Cause: The internal controls of Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership, Inc. did not identify the adjustment described above prior to the audit.

Effect: As a result of the financial reporting matter identified in the condition paragraph, a significant deficiency exists in Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting.

Recommendation: We recommend Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership, Inc. implement procedures to provide sufficient internal control so that this type of activity is reviewed so that these transactions are recorded appropriately in accordance wiht accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

View of responsible officials: Management agrees with the assessment and has committed to a corrective action plan.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None.

Section IV - Status of Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs

None.

Head Start and Early Head Start Accountablility - Monitoring Review

There was no Federal monitoring review.

History of Community Action

The community action movement formally began in 1964 with the passage of the Equal Opportunity Act, the legislative core of President Johnson’s War on poverty. However, the program had its roots in the Ford Foundation’s “Gray Areas” programs of the mid-1950s. The Equal Opportunity Act created the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO), directed by R. Sargent Shriver, and that office distributed federal funds directly to local groups who were then responsible to work with those in poverty to improve their lives.

The original Equal Opportunity Act established several programs, some of which still exist today. Head Start, the Legal Services Corporation, and Community Action Programs (CAPs) were the first OEO programs. Many CAPs have evolved into Community Action Agencies over the years, although their mission and roles have remained fairly stable.

ICAP’s service area originally consisted of Lake and Miner counties. As anti-poverty programs evolved at the federal and state levels, local service areas were rearranged several times, so that by 1983 ICAP included Brookings, Clark, Codington, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Kingsbury, Lake, Miner, and Moody counties. After the dissolution of one of the other Community Action Agencies in the state, ICAP was requested to add McCook and Minnehaha counties to its service area. The agency accepted, and this grew to 12-county area. In 2006, ICAP added community service projects in Lincoln and Turner counties, bringing the total coverage area to 14 counties.

Community action, while having changed in its years of existence, is still focused on the empowerment of low-income and elderly persons to help themselves move from poverty toward their maximal level of self-sufficiency. This philosophy is best described by the phrase “a hand up, not a handout.” To assure that low-income populations of the service area have a say in the operations of the agency, one-third of ICAP’s Board of Directors consists of representatives of the low-income, who are elected by the low-income population in each county. Public officials (county commissioners) and private-sector representatives make up the other two-thirds of the Board. Thus, each county in the service area has an equal voice on the Board, as do each of the three sectors (public, private and low-income).

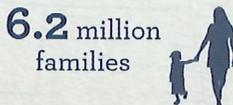
Community Action’s Reach

The nation’s 1,000+ Community Action Agencies are a robust, national, state, and local force, reaching children and families in **99% of America’s counties** with life changing services that create pathways to opportunity and prosperity. Annually, we reach:

15 million
low-income
individuals



3.9 million children



6.2 million families



2.3 million
seniors



1.7 million
people with
disabilities



ICAP is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



111 N Van Eps Ave • PO Box 268 • Madison, SD 57042 • (605) 256-6518
www.interlakescap.com